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printer 20 also includes a database 60 of shared instructions, stored on a local disk, accessed by the RIP. The instructions stored in the database include, for example, setup instructions for a particular finishing device that are to be followed by the operator in all cases, regardless of the particular configuration chosen. Generally, these instructions will include directions as to how to physically set up a given finishing device. For example, a hole punch may have detents that must be physically moved to a desired position, but are secured by spring-loaded pins that must be removed prior to moving the detents. Likewise, the shared instructions may remind the operator to power down a particular finishing device prior to performing setup operations thereon, should that step be necessary.

In the Claims:

Please add the following new claims:

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25. (New) A method of coordinating a printer and an associated finishing device that is connected to the printer, comprising the steps of:

a) receiving, at the printer, a first print job, the first print job including received setup instructions for at least one finishing device that is associated with the first print job;

b) printing an instruction sheet in response to receiving the received setup instructions, the instruction sheet listing setup operations associated with the first print job, the setup operations to be performed on the at least one finishing device prior to completing the first print job;

c) placing at least the first print job on hold; and

d) receiving a release code to release the print job from hold and allow the printer to complete the first print job.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising the steps of:

accessing a database of internal setup instructions that are to be performed on the at least one finishing device, the internal setup instructions being associated with the received setup instructions;

retrieving a file from the database containing instructions for the at least one finishing device; and

translating the file into a page description file that is rasterized and incorporated into the printed instruction sheet.

27. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the print job is received via a network.

28. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the printer is a stand-alone unit including a scanner that provides image data to the printer.

29. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein placing at least the first print job on hold comprises placing all print jobs on hold.

30. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein placing at least the first print job on hold comprises placing on hold any print jobs that require using the at least one finishing device that is associated with the first print job.
